

Sub 17 6. (Amended) A method of searching for an object in still or video images by processing signals corresponding to image, the method comprising:

deriving a view descriptor of the first outline of the object,

B7 deriving at least one additional view descriptor of the outline of the object in a different view,

associating the two or more view descriptors to form at least one stored object descriptor containing the view descriptors,

inputting a query to the computer in the form of at least one two-dimensional outline of the object;

deriving a descriptor of the query object;

comparing said query descriptor with said object descriptor; and

selecting and displaying at least one result corresponding to an image containing an object for which the comparison between the respective descriptor and the query descriptor indicates a degree of similarity between the query and said object.

7. (Amended) A method as claimed in claim 6 wherein a query is input in the form of two or more two-dimensional outlines of an object, and wherein a query view descriptor is derived for each said outline, and wherein the step of comparing comprises comparing each said query view descriptor with each view descriptor in each stored object descriptor to derive a plurality of view-similarity values.

68 9. (Amended) A method as claimed in claim 6, wherein at least some of the object descriptors include view-independent descriptors derived in accordance with a method as claimed in claim 3 and wherein the method comprises inputting a view-independent query value and the step of comparing compares the query value with the view-independent descriptors for the stored object descriptors.

10. (Amended) A method as claimed in claim 6, wherein the query descriptor is derived using a curvature scale space representation of the query object outline.

5/11 11. (Amended) A method of representing an object appearing in an image by processing signals corresponding to said image, the method comprising deriving representations of a plurality of different 2-dimensional views corresponding to the object; and

supplying said plurality of different 2-dimensional views as at least a part of a representation of the object.

12. (Amended) An apparatus adapted for implementing a method as claimed in claim 1.

13. (Amended) A computer program for implementing a method as claimed in claim 1.

14. (Amended) A computer system programmed to operate according to a method as claimed in claim 1.

15. (Amended) A computer-readable storage medium storing computer-executable process steps for implementing a method as claimed in claim 1.

Please add the following claims:

--18. A digital representation of an object comprising:

a first digital file forming a representation of a first two dimensional view of the object; and

a second digital file forming a representation of a second two dimensional view of the object different from the first two dimensional view of the object.

19. The digital representation of claim 18 wherein said digital representation is stored in a computer memory medium.

20. The digital representation of claim 18 wherein said digital representation is encoded in an electronic data stream.

21. The digital representation of claim 18 wherein said first and second digital files represent different perspectives of the object.

22. The digital representation of claim 18 wherein said first and second digital files each represent the outline of the object from a perspective view of the object.

23. The digital representation of claim 22 wherein said first and second digital files each represent the outline of the object as a curvature scale space representation.

24. The digital representation of claim 18 wherein said object is three dimensional.

25. A digital representation of a three dimensional object comprising:

at least two digital files each being a representation of a two dimensional view of the object; and

an additional characteristic digital file representing at least one additional identifying characteristic of the object.

26. The digital representation of claim 25 wherein said additional characteristic digital file represents the volume of the object.

27. The digital representation of claim 25 wherein said digital representation is stored in a computer memory medium.

28. The digital representation of claim 25 wherein said digital representation is encoded in an electronic data stream.

29. The digital representation of claim 25 wherein said at least two digital files represent different perspectives of the object.

30. The digital representation of claim 25 wherein said at least two digital files each represent the outline of the object from a perspective view of the object.

31. The digital representation of claim 30 wherein said at least two digital files each represent the outline of the object as a curvature scale space representation.

32. The digital representation of claim 25 wherein said object is three dimensional.--

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